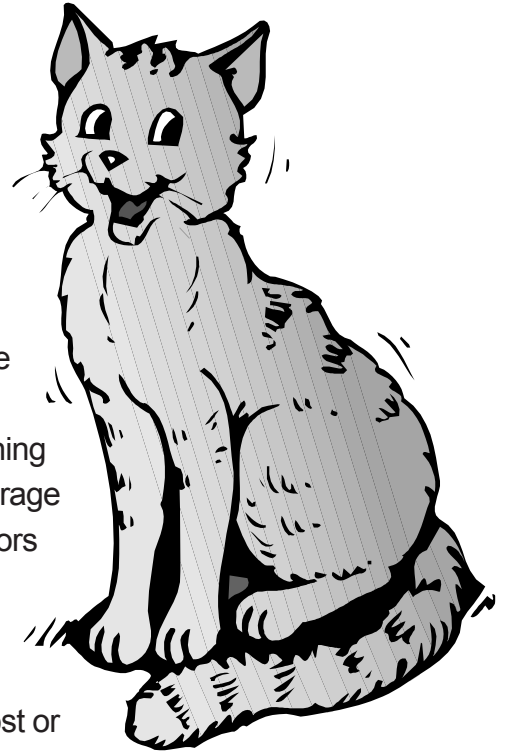


SUGGESTIONS FOR CONVERTING OUTDOOR CATS TO INDOOR CATS



1. ☐ Ignore all crying at the door. As difficult as it may be, this is the ☐ first step in training your cat. When your cat leaves the door ☐ praise him/her and offer petting and affection. For any scratching ☐ at doors or windows, spray the cat with a water gun to discourage ☐ this behavior. If you give in to your cats demands to go outdoors ☐ sometimes, you will only be confusing him.
2. ☐ Your indoor cat will need things to occupy his time during the ☐ day/night. Most important, make sure there is a scratching post or ☐ other acceptable place to stretch and scratch on. Have toys available ☐ and try paper bags or cardboard boxes to encourage play. Make special time each day to ☐ play with your cat. Try to create diversions from his/her desire to go outdoors. Keep windows ☐ available for your cat to look outside (they love to watch the birds at a backyard feeder!). Cat ☐ furniture or cat trees are nice to offer for climbing and exercise.
3. ☐ If your cat is a real escape artist and manages to slip out every time you go in and out, it may ☐ be necessary to confine your cat to one room only, for several days or a week. Spend time in ☐ the room with your cat to offer affection and play time together. Show him how good life is ☐ indoors!
4. ☐ Some pet owners are able to offer the luxury of an outdoor enclosure for their cats. A secure ☐ enclosure is the only safe way for a cat to be outdoors!

It will take time, patience and understanding on your part to adapt your outdoor cat to a new life indoors. With your help, your cat can make the change and enjoy a safer, happier and longer life inside!

San Bernardino County
Animal Care & Control Program
(800) 472-5609

